

ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF

■ KING COVE ■ SAND POINT ■ AKUTAN ■ COLD BAY ■ FALSE PASS ■ NELSON LAGOON

April 18, 2000

Eric Taylor
Area Plans Coordinator
State of Alaska
DOT/PF
Division of Statewide Planning
3132 Channel Drive
Juneau, AK 99801-7898

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have reviewed your "Table 6: Total Weekly Demand and Current Runway Length" of the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan: Airport Improvement Analysis: Technical Memorandum. I am extremely disappointed with the inadequacy of the work reflected in Table 6 as it relates to airports in the Aleutians East Borough. You really missed the mark on the Sand Point and Akutan airports. Regarding Sand Point, the design aircraft was never a Beech 1900. The category for this airport was design group C-IV.

Akutan is completely wrong. Enplanements for Akutan should be in the 3,000-4,000 range per year. Design aircraft currently is the Grumman Goose, operated by PenAir which lands at the seaplane facility. At a minimum, Akutan should be a 1,000 meter strip capable of supporting either the Metroliner or the SAAB 310. Furthermore, you should be aware that DOT/PF is presently conducting an airport master planning project for Akutan, as PenAir has gone on record that it is phasing out the Grumman Goose.

I hope these comments will be incorporated into the final technical memorandum. It is my belief that previous comments made by the Aleutians East Borough on other sections of the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan have not seen the light of day. This is, in part, responsible for our lack of involvement in the planning process.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Juettner
Administrator

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